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5 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
6 DISTRICT OF NEVADA

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8 LORI L. THOMAS,

9 Plaintiff,

10 v.

11 THOMAS ZACHRY; MARNA ZACHRY;
12 JOHN HARPER; STOREY COUNTY and its
13 BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS;

14 Defendants.
15

Case No. 3:17-cv-0219-LRH-WGC

ORDER

16 Before the court is plaintiff Lori L. Thomas's ("Thomas") *ex parte* application for a
17 temporary restraining order. ECF No. 3. Defendants Thomas Zachry, Marna Zachry, John
18 Harper, and Storey County and its Board of Commissioners (collectively, "defendants") have
19 not been served with either the present application for a temporary restraining order or the
20 underlying complaint.

21 **I. Facts and Procedural Background**

22 This is a declaratory relief action involving a determination of whether a certain parcel
23 of real property in Storey County, Nevada owned by plaintiff Thomas contains a private or
24 public roadway. On or about October 2016, Thomas purchased the underlying real property.
25 Subsequently, in December 2016, the District Attorney for Storey County sent Thomas a letter
26 demanding that Thomas allow public access to the roadway on the property. In response,
27 Thomas placed certain barriers on the roadway contending that the road is a private road
28 located on private property.

1 On April 4, 2017, the Storey County Board of Commissioners approved a plan for the
2 Storey County Public Works Department to commence proceedings to remove any and all
3 obstructions on the underlying property. On April 7, 2017, Thomas filed a complaint against
4 defendants alleging four causes of action: (1) petition for writ of mandamus; (2) Due Process
5 violation; (3) injunctive relief; and (4) declaratory relief. ECF No. 1. Thereafter, on April 10,
6 2017, counsel for Thomas filed the present *ex parte* application for a temporary restraining
7 order. ECF No. 3.

8 **II. Discussion**

9 In its present application, Thomas requests the court issue a temporary restraining order
10 without notice to defendants. *See* ECF No. 3. Pursuant to Rule 65, “[t]he court may issue a
11 temporary restraining order without written or oral notice to the adverse party . . . only if: (A)
12 specific facts in an affidavit or a verified complaint clearly show that immediate and irreparable
13 injury, loss, or damage will result to the movant before the adverse party can be heard in
14 opposition; and (B) the movant’s attorney certifies in writing any efforts made to give notice
15 and the reasons why it should not be required.” Fed. R. Civ. P. 65(b)(1).

16 Here, after reviewing the documents and pleadings on file in this matter, the court finds
17 that Thomas has not satisfied the requirements for issuance of a temporary restraining order
18 without notice under Rule 65. She has not filed a verified complaint in this action, nor has she
19 filed any affidavit in support of the present motion that establishes an immediate and
20 irreparable injury, loss, or damage that would result before the defendants could be heard on
21 this issue as required by Rule 65(b)(1)(A). *See* ECF Nos. 1, 3. In support of her motion,
22 Thomas has submitted a personal affidavit and a declaration from counsel. *See* ECF Nos 4, 5.
23 However, these documents fail to comply with the requirements of Rule 65(b)(1)(B). Counsel’s
24 declaration does not mention any attempt to provide notice to the opposing party nor does it
25 identify the reasons why notice should not be required. Further, Thomas’s *ex parte* application
26 makes it clear that it has not yet served the underlying complaint. Therefore, the court finds that
27 Thomas is not entitled to the issuance of a temporary restraining order without notice.

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1 However, upon service of the present motion and the underlying complaint on the
2 defendants, as established by the filing of a notice of service with the court, the court shall treat
3 the present motion as a motion for a preliminary injunction pursuant to Rule 65(a) and set an
4 expedited hearing on the motion. Further, if the circumstances underlying this action change, or
5 if Thomas can present evidence of irreparable harm during the expedited briefing period on her
6 request for a preliminary injunction, the court would entertain a renewed motion for a
7 temporary restraining order with notice to the defendants.

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9 IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that plaintiff's *ex parte* application for a temporary
10 restraining order (ECF No. 3) is DENIED.

11 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that plaintiff Lori L. Thomas shall serve a copy of the
12 *ex parte* application for a temporary restraining order and request for a preliminary injunction
13 (ECF No. 3) - along with a copy of the complaint (ECF No. 1), summons, and a copy of this
14 order - on defendants no later than Thursday, April 13, 2017. Defendants may file a response to
15 the request for a preliminary injunction no later than 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, April 19, 2017.
16 Plaintiff may file a reply no later than 5:00 p.m., Friday, April 21, 2017.

17 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a hearing on plaintiff's request for a preliminary
18 injunction is scheduled for Tuesday, April 25, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. in Courtroom 3 at the
19 Bruce R. Thompson courthouse in Reno, Nevada.

20 IT IS SO ORDERED.

21 DATED this 11th day of April, 2017.

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24 LARRY R. HICKS
25 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
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